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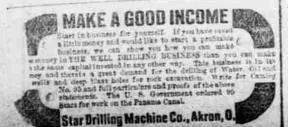
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### THE FROM COMMONER

MR. BRYAN'S PAPER

MR. TAFT AS A CRITIC.

When Secretary Taft spoke at Omaha recently he took occasion to criticise Mr. Bryan. His first criticism was directed to Mr. Bryan's conduct in advocating the ratification of the treaty. According to Secretary Taft, distribute; he has no great corporate Mr. Bryan can not consistently criti- influence back of him; he has no way cise the imperialistic policy of the of influencing men except by pergovernment because he favored the ratification of the treaty. Secretary Taft is either misinformed as to what Mr. Bryan did, or he is lacking in the zation. When he was nominated for safe was blown open and about candor that ought to characterize public men in speaking of an opponent. the nomination, and it was not sup-The question before the country was posed that he could be elected, for the not whether the treaty was as good a district was strongly Republican, but treaty as might have been made, or he was elected, largely owing to the whether it contained provisions that it landslide of that year. He was reought not to have contained. The nominated without opposition in 1892. treaty was made by the president's In 1894 he was nominated for the representatives, and when presented United States senate by the Demoto congress, contained a provision for cratic state convention, receiving the ceding of the Philippine islands every vote on the roll-call. In 1896 he to the United States. The Republicans had a majority in both senate and delegates wanted to nominate him; expenses. If the Democrats had succeeded in preventing the ratification of the treaty, they were not in a position to give instructions as to a new treaty. If they had prevented the ratification they would have taken upon themselves the responsibility for anything that happened while the state of war continued. If, for instance, they had refused to ratify the treaty, and insisted that Spain should give independence to the Filipinos, there was danger of objection being made by the European nations which have colonies in the orient, and none of the monarchies of Europe are anxious to have a republic established in Asia. could bring upon themselves just it, and he has never for a moment regretted the part he took in that crisis. He proposed the ratification of the treaty and a declaration of our nation's purpose to recognize the independence of the Philippine islands just as the the independence of Cuba. The treaty settled the question as far as Spain was concerned and left the future of the Filipinos entirely to us. It was easier for us to act alone than to act through a treaty, and by acting alone we relieved ourselves of the dangers that attend the negotiation of a treaty. The plan which Mr. Bryan proposed

came so near realization that it re- such that contesting delegations have tion. quired the vote of the vice-president to defeat it, for the treaty was ratified by a very slender margin, and the vote on the Bacon resolution promising the officials, but he has the powerful independence was so close that the presiding officer, the vice-president, to spend more money in securing the turned the scales and decided the secretary's nomination than the Demoquestion in the negative. One more crats can hope to collect for a camvote and the promise of independence paign fund. Surely Secretary Taft would have been given and all subse- must have forgotten himself when he quent trouble saved. Now it is hardly complained that Mr. Bryan was leadfair to judge Secretary Taft of ignor- ing the Democratic party against its ance of the situation at that time. He will. certainly knew that Mr. Bryan's plan included the promise of independence as well as the ratification of the treaty. How can he, then, discuss the matter without discussing the entire plan? Why does be speak only of the ratification of the treaty and ignore the promise of independence? Secretary Taft is not the only Republican who shows this lack of candor. Time and again Republicans have made the criticism that Secretary Taft makes, and by doing so have been guilty of the

sistently opposed imperialism; he has habit, or it may be a mood of despair from the very first insisted upon the in which all candidates retire in favor promise of independence. The rati- of the one man who has learned how fication of the treaty was only a means | to make defeat pay of securing independence, and the Or it may be that the American peoonly means in sight. If we could not ple have grown weary of the imposidefeat imperialism when the Bacon tions put upon them by trust magnates proposition was presented, we could posing as "defenders of the national not defeat it when our fight was enr | honor." barrassed by the prolonging of the war and the incurring of dangers incident thereto.

There has never been a time since the treaty was ratified but we might prints this significant editorial; "On have settled the question by a promise which side is the heart of the presiof independence, but Republican lead- dent in the party struggle in the house ers were willing to surrender the doc- or representatives? Does he sympatrine of self-government in order to thize with the opposition filibustering secure trade advantages in the orient, to force action on his favorite measand not being able to defend their policy, they have tried to lay the rati. fighting to dump them under a trapheation of the treaty upon Mr. Bryan, door until the next session? Which is as if the ratification had made it im. the president's party, anyhow?" possible for them to avoid colonialism. dred millions in this foolish attempt to ape the monarchism of the old world; we have more than doubled our liams of New York recently said; Power, Hydrocele, Rupture, Stricture, etc. army, and we are constantly increas- "The day of perpetual franchises is ing our navy, and imperialism is the past. The public insists, and will in- methods. Trained attendants. only excuse that can be made for sist, that franchises, whether in the either. Our annual appropriations for streets or under the streets, shall the army and navy are more than one either remain in the city or within the hundred millions a year in excess of city's control under such conditions what they were ten years ago, and that they may be retaken after a are still increasing. The Republicans given period." refused to announce a policy; they re-fused to discuss the subject, and yet Secretary Taft, who admitted that he the expenses go on. The Democrats favored the perpetual franchise in the say, just as Bryan said in 1899, prom- Philippines.

ise independence and fulfill the prombe established. Secretary Taft ought to have enough courage to meet the real issue and not attempt to hide behind a bogus issue.

Secretary Taft in the Omaha speech

made another criticism of Mr. Bryan,

referring to him as "a gentleman who still seems to have the power of lead- washed out or damaged so they ing the Democratic party against its will." He adopts the language of some of the corporate papers which have made the same charge. Secretary Taft ought to be well enough informed to know that Mr. Bryan has no means of leading the Democratic party against its will. He has no offices to deep in some of the houses. suasion; he has never had a political commission and he never had any fund to draw on to keep up an organicongress in 1890, no one else desired \$60 in cash and postage tsamps was nominated in Chicago because the house, and the president was a Re- in 1900 he was re-nominated, nearly publican, but as the treaty requires a every state and territory instructing drowned the noise of the extwo-thirds majority, some of the op- for him. He announced immediately plosion. ponents of imperialism thought it pos- after the election in 1900 that he sible to secure the rejection of the would not be a candidate in 1904, but treaty. The rejection of the treaty, the disastrous results of the campaign son of Mr. and Mrs. James however, would simply continue the of 1904 showed the folly of any atstate of war and furnish an excuse for tempt to conciliate predatory wealth, a continuance of war taxes and war and as soon as the election was over day night from injuries received he was discussed in connection with the nomination of 1908. In the fall of 1905 Mr. Bryan left home for a trip around the world and was gone about a year; he was not in correspondence with any one in regard to politics, and yet while he was out of the country, something like half of the states passed resolutions favorable to his nomination. Notwithstanding this very unusual indorsement, he refused to announce himself as a candidate, to board an incoming train. All and for more than a year waited to see if the political conditions would make some one else more available. In November of last year he announced train and both legs severed just that he would accept the nomination below the body. When picked With a minority in both houses, the if it was the desire of the Democratic Democrats could not possibly shape voters that he should do so, and this up his first words were: "Take the policy of the government, but they announcement was made to put an me to mather and let her kiss end to the constant misrepresentations criticism if they involved the country that were being made by unfriendly in further war. This was the situation papers. That is as far as he has that the Democrats had to meet and gone. Whatever work others have Mr. Bryan proposed a plan for meeting done in his behalf has been done voluntarily and without solicitation from him. How, then, can he be accused of leading the Democratic party against

But the strangest part of this charge is that it comes from Secretary treaty provided for the recognition of Taft whose candidacy is backed by the president and who has the aid of nearly all the government officials in securing delegates. Everyone who is connected with politics knows what an advantage it is to have any army of workers who get pay from the people while they devote themselves to politics. The activity of the government officials in behalf of Mr. Taft has been been sent from a number of districts.

Not only has the secretary the backing of the president and the support of aid of a rich brother who is prepared

OR IT MAY BE-

A magazine writer who seems to be "groping blindly in the darkness,"

'The thing which has made Bryanism again possible may be a mere spinning eestasy in the nerves of an overwrought people; it may be a slow moral revolution, swinging tidelike from party to party; it may be a recognition of the enduring power of an unsullied manhood, coupled with an in-Mr. Bryan has constantly and per- comparable tongue; it may be a mere

WHERE?

The Springfield (Mass.) Republican ures, or with the Republican majority

Grand river is out of its banks ise as soon as a state government can in Livingston county and doing much damage in many places. The rain Saturday evening did much damage in Sampsel town. ship, nearly every bridge and culvert in the township was either were impassable. The water rose so fast at Sampsel station that many families were compelled to leave their homes in the night. The water stood six feet

> Burglars effected an entrance into the postoffice at Laclede through the Blade printing-office in the rear Saturday night. The were taken. Nitro-glycerine was probably used. The door of the safe was torn into fragments. The letter boxes and furniture were badly damaged by flying debris to the amount of about \$100. The perpetrators left no trace and did the work during the heavy rain that night which

Lee Moling, the 15-year-old Moling of Chillicothe, died Friwhile trying to board a moving passenger train. Lee with several other companions boarded a Burlington train in the local yards and rode to a trestle about a mile west of town where the trains have "slow orders," there they jumped off and undertook of the boys succeeded except Lee, who was hurled under the me," He only lived a few hours,



## The Publisher's **Claims Sustained**

UNITED STATES COURT OF CLAIMS The Publishers of Webster's International Dictionary allege that it "is, in fact, the popular Unabridged thoroughly re-edited in every detail, and vastly enriched in every part, with the purpose of adapting it to meet the larger and severer requirements of another generation."

We are of the opinion that this allegation most clearly and accurately describes the work that has been accomplished and the result that has been reached. The Dictionary, as it now stands, has been thoroughly redited in every detail, has been corrected in every part, and is admirably adapted to meet the larger and severer requirements of a preparation which demands more of popular philodogical knowledge than any generation philological knowledge than any generation that the world has ever contained.

It is perhaps needless to add that we refer to the dictionary in our judicial work as of the highest authority in accuracy of defini-tion; and that in the future as in the past it will be the source of constant reference. CHARLES C. NOTT, Chief Justice. LAWRENCE WELDON,
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